

MIBIT 13

MATE 1/25/11

MB Commerce

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MEDA represents over 230 members who are actively involved in local economic activity, community development, job retention and job creation for Montana.

January 25, 2011

TO: Chairman Walter McNutt and members of the House Appropriations Committee

RE: Support of Montana Department of Commerce - Energy Promotions and Development Division

We are very fortunate to have such essential resources right in our backyard and we can secure our economic future by responsibly developing these resources in a manner that upholds the quality of life that Montanans enjoy and expect. Montana has been an energy exporter for many years and MEDA supports the Department of Commerce Energy Promotion and Development Division to help drive this important industry in the state.

Navigating the various permitting and other governmental processes is never an easy process when developing these types projects, however, the staff of the Energy Promotion and Development Division made communication with various departments of government and the public simple and direct. Their work has played an important role in the responsible development of Montana's energy portfolio.

Energy development will provide for generations of Montanans to come and the type of economic development that we need in Montana. Thank you for the support of your Department and the Energy Promotion and Development Division.

Sincerell

Jim Davison, President

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